

# CITY OF NORTHAMPTON MASSACHUSETTS

*In the City Council, January 5th, 2017*

Upon the Recommendation of Councilors Ryan R. O'Donnell and William H. Dwight

## O-17.232 AN ORDER

### TO AMEND THE COUNCIL RULES

*Ordered, that the following amendments to the Rules be adopted:*

#### 2.6.1.4. COMMITTEE on LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

2.6.1.4.1. **Upon referral by the City Council, t**~~The~~ Committee shall have the power to make recommendations on ordinances, orders, resolutions and the rules of the City Council. ~~The Committee shall also make~~ **Such** recommendations ~~on all proposed ordinances;~~ **shall be made** in consultation with the City Solicitor.

2.6.1.4.2. The Committee may choose to be the last committee to review any matter that is also referred to another Council committee. The Committee shall not be required to wait to receive the report of any executive commission.

2.6.1.4.3. The Committee shall consist of four Councilors.

2.6.1.4.4. Related departments, boards and agencies: Legal Services; City Clerk; License Commission; and any other department, board or agency.

2.6.2.6. Duty to report. ~~For the purposes of this section, “t~~**To** report” shall mean transmitting a positive/**favorable**, negative/**unfavorable** or neutral recommendation and associated votes as well as any suggested textual amendments and related documents.

2.6.2.6.1 For matters referred to the Committee on Legislative Matters, among others: All committees other than the Committee on Legislative Matters shall report to the Committee on Legislative Matters and the City Council within 60 days, whereupon the Committee on Legislative Matters shall report to the full City Council within an additional 30 days.

2.6.2.6.2 For matters referred to the Committee on Legislative Matters exclusively: The Committee on Legislative Matters shall report to the full City Council within 60 days.

2.6.2.6.3 For matters referred to committees not including the Committee on Legislative Matters: Committees shall report to the full City Council within 90 days.

2.6.2.6.4 Committees shall make all reports in writing.

## 5.2. REFERRAL OF MATTERS TO COMMITTEES.

5.2.1. In general, all matters may be referred to Council committees or executive multiple-member bodies, which shall constitute a request for a report on such matters. ~~or their report.~~

5.2.2. Financial orders. No order or resolution authorizing a loan, the levying of a tax or the expenditure of money (with the exception of the printing of the annual reports) shall be voted on by the City Council until it has been considered by the Committee on Finance. It shall be the duty of such committee to report on the relation of such order, resolution, levy or expenditures to the finances of the City, but new provisions shall not be added to such resolution, order, levy or expenditure by the Committee unless directly connected with the financial features thereof, and then by recommendation only.

5.2.3. Ordinances. No ordinance shall be voted on by the City Council until it has been considered by the Committee on Legislative Matters.

5.2.4. Licenses and permits. Licenses and permits may be referred to the Committee on Community Resources for the committee's recommendation.

**5.2.5 Should a committee fail to report within the time set forth in Section 2.6.2.6, or if a multiple-member body fails to report within 45 days of referral to that body, the City Council shall be authorized to proceed with the matter in absence of such report.**

5.1.2 PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL, MAYOR. Every new ordinance, order and resolution or other matter ~~proposed by a City Councilor, Council committee, the Office of the Mayor including City Departments and Executive Commissions~~ to be submitted for City Council action shall be forwarded to the Mayor, Council President and Administrative Assistant to the City Council, ~~for placement on the agenda of the City Council.~~

5.3 SOLICITOR REVIEW OF ORDINANCES. At or before the meeting at which the Committee on Legislative Matters considers any matter for approval and/or recommendation the City Solicitor **shall be requested to** examine the matter's form and legal character.